

STATE CORPORATION COMMISSION

AT RICHMOND, JUNE 11, 2020

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APPLICATION OF

NOVO ENERGY SERVICES LLC

CASE NO. PUR-2020-00087

For a license to conduct business as an
aggregator of electricity supply service

ORDER FOR NOTICE AND COMMENT

On May 27, 2020, Novo Energy Services LLC ("Novo" or "Company") completed the filing of an application with the State Corporation Commission ("Commission") for a license to act as an aggregator of electricity service ("Application").¹ Novo seeks authority to provide electricity aggregation services in the service territory of Virginia Electric and Power Company d/b/a Dominion Energy Virginia and Appalachian Power Company to eligible commercial, industrial, and governmental customers.² In its Application, Novo attested that it would abide by all applicable regulations of the Commission as required by 20 VAC 5-312-40 B of the Commission's Rules Governing Retail Access to Competitive Energy Services.³

NOW THE COMMISSION, upon consideration of the Application, is of the opinion and finds that it should docket Novo's Application; Novo should serve this Order upon the appropriate persons; Staff should conduct an investigation of the Application and present its

¹ Novo filed its Application on May 13, 2020, but the Commission's Staff ("Staff") deemed the Application incomplete as filed. The Company provided supplemental information on May 27, 2020, completing its Application.

² Retail choice for electricity is only permitted pursuant to the customer classes, load parameter, and renewable energy sources set forth in the Code of Virginia ("Code"). Further, in its Application, the Company indicated that it wished to provide services to a customer class that it identified as "educational." For licensure purposes, publicly owned educational facilities are classified as governmental, and privately held educational facilities would be in a customer class other than governmental depending on the size of the customer.

³ 20 VAC 5-312-10 *et seq.*

findings in a report ("Staff Report"); and interested persons should have an opportunity to comment on the Application. We further find that a Hearing Examiner should be appointed to rule on all discovery matters that arise during the course of this proceeding.

Accordingly, IT IS ORDERED THAT:

- (1) This matter is docketed and assigned Case No. PUR-2020-00087.
- (2) As provided by Code § 12.1-31 and 5 VAC 5-20-120, *Procedure before hearing examiners*, of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure ("Rules of Practice"),⁴ a Hearing Examiner is appointed to rule on any discovery issues that may arise during the course of this proceeding.
- (3) A copy of the Application may be viewed or downloaded from the Commission's website: <https://scc.virginia.gov/pages/Case-Information>.
- (4) On or before June 19, 2020, NOVO shall serve a copy of this Order upon the utilities listed on Attachment A to this Order.⁵
- (5) In accordance with the Commission's revised operating procedures during the COVID-19 emergency, all comments, pleadings, and documents shall be submitted electronically to the Clerk of the Commission to the extent authorized by the Commission's Rules of Practice.⁶

⁴ 5 VAC 5-20-10 *et seq.*

⁵ See *Commonwealth of Virginia, ex rel. State Corporation Commission, Ex Parte: Electronic service among parties during COVID-19 emergency*, Case No. CLK-2020-00007, Doc. Con. Cen. No. 200410009, Order Requiring Electronic Service (Apr. 1, 2020).

⁶ See *Commonwealth of Virginia, ex rel. State Corporation Commission, Ex Parte: Revised Operating Procedures During COVID-19 Emergency*, Case No. CLK-2020-00005, Doc. Con. Cen. No. 200330042, Order Regarding the State Corporation Commission's Revised Operating Procedures During COVID-19 Emergency (Mar. 19, 2020) (noting that all pleadings should be submitted electronically to the extent authorized by Rule 5 VAC 5-20-150 of the Rules of Practice. Those seeking to hand deliver and physically file or submit a pleading or document to be filed in a case pending before the Commission must contact the Commission's Clerk's Office at (804) 371-9838 to arrange the delivery. Further, submissions to the Commission's Clerk's Office via U.S. mail or commercial mail equivalents

(6) On or before June 26, 2020, the Company shall file proof of service as ordered herein with Joel H. Peck, Clerk, State Corporation Commission, c/o Document Control Center, P.O. Box 2118, Richmond, Virginia 23218-2118, or by filing electronically at <https://scc.virginia.gov/clk/efiling/>.

(7) Any interested person may request a public copy of the Application, accompanying materials, and this Order by directing a request in writing to Attorney Michael Giery, Novo Energy Services LLC, 243 Main Street, Buzzards Bay, Massachusetts 02532, mgieri@novo-cg.com. Where possible, the interested person's request shall include an electronic mail address to which the Company may send the requested documents. The Company shall, within three (3) days of receipt of such request, serve the requested documents upon the person making such request.

(8) Comments on the Application may be filed on or before June 30, 2020, with the Clerk of the Commission at: <https://scc.virginia.gov/casecomments/Submit-Public-Comments> or at the mailing address in Ordering Paragraph (6). A copy of such comments, whether submitted in writing or electronically, shall be served upon the Company at the email address set forth in Ordering Paragraph (7). Such comments simultaneously shall be sent electronically to Richard Michaux, Senior Utility Accountant, State Corporation Commission, at Richard.Michaux@scc.virginia.gov. All comments shall refer to Case No. PUR-2020-00087.

(9) The Staff shall analyze Novo's Application and shall present its findings in a Staff Report to be filed on or before July 10, 2020.

may not be processed for an indefinite period of time due to the COVID-19 emergency.), *extended by* Doc. Con. Cen. No. 200520105, Order Regarding the State Corporation Commission's Revised Operating Procedures During COVID-19 Emergency (May 11, 2020).

(10) On or before July 17, 2020, the Company and any party who filed comments on the Application may file with the Clerk of the Commission, at <http://scc.virginia.gov/clk/efiling/>, any response to the Staff Report. If not filed electronically, an original and fifteen (15) copies of the response shall be filed with the Clerk of the Commission at the address in Ordering Paragraph (6).

(11) The Company shall respond to written interrogatories or data requests within five (5) calendar days after the receipt of the same. Interrogatories and data requests, as well as the responses thereto, shall be transmitted via electronic mail. Except as modified herein, discovery shall be in accordance with Part IV of the Commission's Rules of Practice.

(12) This matter is continued.

A COPY hereof shall be sent electronically by the Clerk of the Commission to: Attorney Michael Giery, Novo Energy Services LLC, 243 Main Street, Buzzards Bay, Massachusetts 02532, mgieri@novo-cg.com; and C. Meade Browder, Jr., Senior Assistant Attorney General, Division of Consumer Counsel, Office of the Attorney General, 202 N. 9th Street, 8th Floor, Richmond, Virginia 23219-3424, MBrowder@oag.state.va.us.

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